

URBAN DISTRICT OF WALTON & WEYBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH
THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1953

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ANNUAL REPORT

Council Offices,
Weybridge.

June, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the Walton and Weybridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year 1953.

The Report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health given in Circular 1/54.

The population of the Urban District at mid-year 1953 is estimated to be 39,420, an increase of seven hundred and ten over the estimated population at mid-year 1952. The natural increase of population from excess of births over deaths was one hundred and eighty. The birth-rate for the year was 15.22 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 14.75 in 1952. The death rate, corrected for age and sex to make it comparable with the rate for the whole country was 10.01 as compared with 11.4 per 1,000 of the population for England and Wales

It was a year of freedom from any outbreaks of major infectious disease. For the eighth consecutive year no cases of diphtheria occurred in children up to school leaving age. It should not be forgotten that diphtheria can only be held in check by widespread immunisation of babies and young children. Following on the low incidence of measles in 1952, a high incidence of cases of measles occurred in 1953. Local epidemics occur every two years, when the majority of susceptible children acquire the disease.

It is worthy of note that there was no mortality from the acute infectious diseases during the year. The death rate from all forms of tuberculosis was the lowest ever recorded in the district.

Following up the hygienic improvements that have been secured in shops where food is sold in recent years, frequent visits have been made during the year to ensure that there is no falling off in standards of food hygiene. No outbreaks of food poisoning were notified during the year.

In conclusion I wish to thank members of the Council for their advice and support and the staff for their ready assistance and co-operation.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. P. MACIVER,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical Officer of Health:

D. P. MACIVER, M.C., T.D., M.D., D.P.H.

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for the Urban District of Chertsey and the Rural District of Bagshot.

(b) Chief Sanitary Inspector:

H. T. CARD, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

W. H. HARRIS, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

C. WILLARD, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant:

P. E. GUNNER.

The Sanitary Inspectors hold the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board, also that of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Card, is also Petroleum Officer and Chief Inspector under the Shops Act, 1950.

The Additional Sanitary Inspectors also fulfil duties as Shops Act Inspectors.

(c) Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health:

Miss J. M. Eglon holds a joint appointment. She is responsible for the secretarial duties appertaining to the work of the Medical Officer of Health in all three districts.

Committees concerned with matters of Public Health.

Public Health and Housing Committee.

Tenants Sub-Committee.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,056
Estimated resident population in July (estimate supplied by Registrar-General)	...	...	...	...	...	...	39,420
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,273
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£513,039
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£2,015 0s. 11d.

Vital Statistics.

	1953	1952
Number of Births	600	571
Birth-Rate per 1,000 of the population	15.22	14.75
Birth-Rate (after correction by the Registrar-General's Comparability Factor)	15.06	13.71
Number of Still Births	8	13
Still Birth-Rate per 1,000 total births	13.33	22.26
Number of Deaths	420	388
Death-Rate (actual) per 1,000 of the population	10.65	10.02
Death-Rate (after correction by the Registrar-General's Comparability Factor)	10.01	9.52
Natural increase of population during year by excess of births over deaths	180	183
Number of deaths of infants (under the age of one year) ...	25	14
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	41.66	24.52
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth	1	Nil
Death-Rate from Influenza per 1,000 of the population ...	0.23	0.21
Death-Rate from Pneumonia per 1,000 of the population ...	0.68	0.33
Death-Rate from Measles per 1,000 of the population ...	Nil	Nil
Death-Rate from Whooping Cough per 1,000 of the population	Nil	Nil
Death-Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population	0.15	0.16
Death-Rate from Cancer per 1,000 of the population ...	1.85	1.83
Death-Rate from Heart Disease per 1,000 of the population ...	2.84	3.05

Extract from Vital Statistics.

Live Births:	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	300	277	577
Illegitimate	13	10	23
Birth-Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)—Mean of five years 1948–1952			15.55
Death-Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)—Mean of five years 1948–1952			10.24
Deaths from Maternal Causes—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			1.64
Death-Rate of Infants under one year of age:			
All infants per 1,000 live births			41.66
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			39.86
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			86.96

The following table shows the birth and death rates per 1,000 of the population of the District, and England and Wales, for 1952 and 1953.

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Population				Infantile Mortality per 1,000 live births		Mortality Maternal per 1,000 total births	
	Birth-Rate		Death-Rate					
	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953
Walton and Weybridge U.D.	* 13·71	* 15·06	* 9·52	* 10·01	24·52	41·66	0·00	1·64
England and Wales ...	15·3	15·5	11·3	11·4	27·6	26·8	0·72	0·76

*After correction by Registrar-General's Comparability Factor.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	2	6
Tuberculosis, other forms	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	1	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	7	13
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	16	4	20
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	18	33
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	3	1	4
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	37	53
Coronary disease, angina	24	27	51
Hypertension with heart disease	3	4	7
Other heart disease	24	30	54
Other circulatory disease	14	15	29
Influenza	3	6	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	10	17	27
Bronchitis	9	9	18
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	—	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	—	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	3	6	9
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	26	29	55
Motor vehicle accidents	3	2	5
All other accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	1	—	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
Totals ...	192	228	420

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory is now located at St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford, and specimens relating to infectious diseases are sent there for examination and report. Specimens of an urgent nature, e.g., diphtheria swabs, can be examined at the laboratory at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey.

Routine samples of milk and ice cream are now examined at the Public Health Laboratory in Guildford. Biological examinations of milk for the tubercle bacillus are also carried out in this laboratory. These were previously examined at the Royal Surrey County Hospital on payment.

Ambulance Facilities.

A Station is established at Stretton Lodge, Wey Road, Weybridge (telephone Weybridge 3031).

The Ambulance Service in this area is controlled from the Main Station, Sharrard House, Heathside Road, Woking (telephone Woking 3040).

Home Nursing and Midwifery.

The Surrey County Council maintains seven whole-time trained nurses. Their addresses are as follows:—

Miss E. Ward.	60, Ambleside Avenue, Walton-on-Thames.	Walton 472
Miss D. Tinkler.	5, Midway, Walton-on-Thames.	Walton 4226
Miss R. G. Kernahan.	Nurses' Cottage, Old Palace Road, Weybridge.	Weybridge 1157
Miss L. Morris.	Ditto.	Ditto.
Miss E. E. A. Clapp.	27, New Road, Weybridge.	Weybridge 3144
Miss L. M. Lediard.	2, Dallington Court, Burhill Rd., Hersham.	Walton 2125
Mrs. W. R. Tarrant.	176, Molesey Road, Hersham.	Walton 940

Health Visitors.

There are four County Health Visitors in the district who visit homes under the School Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

Home Help Service.

The County Council maintains from its Divisional Offices in Woking a service for the provision of home helps in maternity cases, and for the purpose of giving assistance in homes when illness is present.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The Surrey County Council have provided the following clinics and treatment centres under their School Medical Service and Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes:—

Centre.	Address.	Clinic.	Day.
Walton-on-Thames.	S.C.C. Clinic, Rodney Road.	School Medical. Child Welfare. Ante-Natal.	Every Fri., a.m. Every Fri., p.m. Every Tues., a.m.
Weybridge.	Locke King Clinic, Devonshire Road.	School Medical. Child Welfare. Ante-Natal.	Every Tues., a.m. Every Tues., p.m. Every Tues., a.m.
Hersham.	Congregational Church Hall, Queens Road.	Child Welfare.	Every Thurs., p.m.
Oatlands.	St. Mary's Church Hall, St. Mary's Road.	School Medical. Child Welfare.	1st & 3rd Thurs., p.m.

Chest Clinics.

Walton, Weybridge and Hersham are served by the Chest Clinic at Locke King Clinic, Weybridge, where the County Chest Physician attends for consultations on the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Friday of each month at 10.0 a.m. and the 2nd Friday at 2.0 p.m.

Venereal Disease.

The following clinics are held for any persons wishing to attend from this area:—

GUILDFORD: Royal Surrey County Hospital.

Males.—Tuesdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Females.—Mondays 3.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Thursdays 9.30 to 11.0 a.m.

KINGSTON: Kingston County Hospital, Wolverton Avenue.

Females.—Thursdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

WOKING: Woking and District Victoria Hospital.

Males.—Thursdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Females.—Tuesdays 4.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Hospitals.

The Woking and Chertsey Group Hospital Management Committee took over control of the local hospitals in July, 1948.

GENERAL HOSPITALS:

The Hospital, Rodney Road, Walton-on-Thames.

The Hospital, Weybridge.

St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey.

Metropolitan Convalescent Home, Walton-on-Thames.

MATERNITY: Walton-on-Thames Maternity Home.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES: Ottershaw Isolation Hospital.

CHRONIC SICK UNITS:

Ottershaw Hospital, Ottershaw.

Red Roses, Pine Grove, Weybridge.

Northcroft Hospital, Englefield Green, Egham.

Clinics.

Locke King Physiotherapy Clinic, Balfour Road, Weybridge.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.

It was not necessary to take any action under this Section of the Act, which is concerned with persons, usually old and incapacitated, who are living alone and not receiving proper and adequate care and attention. Such cases did arise but they were persuaded to enter an old people's home or hospital voluntarily.

Welfare.

Aged Sick Hospitals.

The Ottershaw Hospital now accommodates twenty-six old ladies, where much success is being achieved in rehabilitation and by occupational therapy. A further extension of chronic sick accommodation at this hospital is under consideration.

At Englefield Green the infectious diseases hospital, now not in use as such, is used to accommodate old men in need of nursing care.

In Weybridge, Red Roses Hospital accommodates twelve chronic sick local residents.

Despite these facilities there is still a considerable waiting list for hospital beds for these patients.

The Medical Officer of Health is a member of the Hospital Committee concerned in selecting cases in order of priority for hospital beds as and when they become available.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Main Water Supplies.

Samples of water as supplied by the West Surrey Water Company are submitted to chemical and bacteriological examination by Messrs. Rideal, Rideal & Sciver. These samples are taken monthly in rotation from the Urban Districts of Walton and Weybridge and Chertsey. The results of the examinations made during the year are tabulated on page 12.

In addition to the above examinations main water supplies and also well water supplies are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Guildford for bacteriological examination.

Direct to houses.

Estimated No. 11,167. Estimated Population 39,000.

By means of standpipes.

Estimated No. 12. Estimated Population 50.

All standpipes are private and within the curtilages of the houses concerned. No street standpipes are provided.

Where a main supply and adequate sewerage are available, water is invariably laid on indoors.

River Ash and Beasley's Ait Estates—Water Supply.

Consultations have taken place between the Council, the Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District Council and the Thames Conservancy on the provision of a main water supply to these estates. The latest view of the Surrey County Council is that further building should be prevented, but that, as the two areas are likely to continue as river-side communities for many years, it would seem reasonable to permit such work as would add reasonably to the enjoyment of the residents during the life of their properties.

The Council have agreed in principle to the provision of a drainage system and a piped water supply to the River Ash and Beasley's Ait Estates. An estimate of the cost of these works is at present under preparation.

During the year drinking water continued to be supplied to the residents by Council transport.

Sewerage.

There have been no extensions to sewers within the district during 1953 with the exception of the normal extensions to the new housing estates.

Special Drainage Committee.

In 1952 a Special Drainage Committee was appointed to investigate and report on the existing system of drainage in the district. The rapid development in building land had resulted in surcharging of sewers during prolonged spells of wet weather in certain localities, particularly in Walton-on-Thames and Hersham and there had been complaints of foul water gaining access to gardens. Messrs. John Taylor and Sons, Consulting Engineers, were engaged to examine the existing systems and the Council's proposals for the disposal of foul and surface water. Their report and provisional estimate was available to the Council at the beginning of the year.

The Council decided that the works should be carried out in the following priority: —

(a) 1953–1954: —

- (i) Foul water drainage, Brooklands area.
- (ii) Replacement of pumps at Weylands Works.
- (iii) Relief sewer from Weylands Works to the junction of Cromwell Road and Ambleside Avenue, Walton-on-Thames.

(b) 1954–1955: —

- (iv) Surface water drainage, Walton-on-Thames.
- (v) Surface water outfall, Mayfield Road, Walton-on-Thames.

App's Court Sewage Works is now a pumping station only, all sewage being pumped to Weylands. A tender has been let for the extension of Weylands Sewage Disposal Works and work will commence shortly.

Summary of Analysis of Samples of Water taken from the supply of the West Surrey Water Company in the Walton and Weybridge District.

Date sample was taken	...	20th Feb.	9th April	19th May	7th July	12th Aug.	21st Dec.
Organisms per ml. at 20°C in							
72 hours on agar ...	...	35	28	5	1	6	2
Organisms per ml. at 20°C in							
72 hours on gelatine ...	...	14	13	4	1	3	1
Organisms per ml. at 37.5°C							
in 48 hours on agar ...	...	28	12	4	1	2	4
Coliform organisms ...	...	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
Chemical Examination in parts per 100,000.							
Free Ammonia ...	...	0.0018	0.0216	0.006	0.0006	0.0024	0.0156
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	...	0.015	0.013	0.014	0.006	0.006	0.0054
Oxygen consumed from per- manganate (4 hrs. at 80°C)		0.147	0.048	0.0768	0.064	0.086	0.0672

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Mr. F. Hulme, Cleansing and Salvage Officer, has kindly supplied me with the following report:—

Refuse and Salvage Collection.

A weekly collection of house refuse was generally maintained during 1953, with food shops and hospitals receiving a twice-weekly service, although a serious shortage of labour was experienced. Overtime working had to be arranged.

The increase in the use of all-night grates has called for greater alertness on the part of refuse collectors to avoid loads of refuse being set on fire by hot ashes placed in the dustbins.

There has been a further increase in the weight of refuse collected during the year.

In April 1953, the separate collection of kitchen waste was stopped.

Refuse Disposal.

Controlled Tipping of refuse was carried out at two sites, whereby low-lying land subject to waterlogging and an area of scrubland were raised. The completed sites are covered with soil.

Statistics.

Refuse and Salvage collected and disposed of	...	17,006 tons.
Tonnage per working day	... ..	65.2 tons.

Salvage Receipts.	Tons	£
Wastepaper	457	3,052
Scrap Metal	3	4
Textiles	7	182
Kitchen Waste	78	264
Bottles and Jars	1	5
String	1	5
Old Tyres	3	3
	<hr/> 550	<hr/> 3,515
Salvage Income per working day	... ..	£13 9s. 4d.
Weight of Salvage per 1,000 population per month		23.2 cwts.

Cesspool Emptying.

A Dennis 800 gallon capacity Gully and Cesspool Emptier was used for this service, and the demand for the use of this machine has again increased.

Number of premises where cesspools are emptied	...	230
Number of cesspool emptyings	... ..	1,289
Number of loads	... ..	3,006
Total volume removed	... ..	2,404,800 gallons.

The employees of the Department were provided during the year with overalls and protective clothing.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Dwelling houses inspected under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932								4
Dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health Acts:—								
(a) General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
(b) Preliminary survey re slum clearance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Dwelling houses visited with regard to housing accommodation and overcrowding								37
Premises inspected other than above, including inspections on complaint, enquiries re infectious diseases, etc.								343
Re-inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts								775
Other inspections:—								
Food Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	228
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	554
Dairies, Milk shops, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factories, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Re Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,394
Rag Flock, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18

Preliminary Notices.

Number of Preliminary Notices outstanding at the beginning of the year								68
Number of Preliminary Notices served during year								195
Number of such Notices complied with during year								175
Number of Preliminary Notices outstanding at the end of the year								88

Statutory Notices.

Statute.						Served.	Complied with.	Work done by Council in default of Owner.
Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 39						3	2	—
”	”	”	”	”	45	1	—	—
”	”	”	”	”	79	19	—	19
”	”	”	”	”	93	7	*6	—

*Includes one complied with on Nuisance Order.

Other Matters.

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	186
Number of Letters sent	...	...	...	...	740
Number of Letters received	...	...	...	...	444
Number of Samples of Milk taken for examination	...	...	...	...	117
Number of Samples of Water taken for analysis from the supply of the West Surrey Water Company	...	...	...	...	9
Number of Samples of Water taken from wells, swimming and paddling pools, etc.	...	...	...	...	7
Number of rooms disinfected after cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	7

Work carried out as a result of the Sanitary Inspectors' representations.

HOUSES.

Damp walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Inside plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Floors renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Floors ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Roofs renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Downpipes or gutters renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Doors and frames repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Window cords renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grates or ovens repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Walls or ceilings cleansed and redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Water services renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous repairs and nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

DRAINAGE.

Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Inspection or intercepting chambers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sinks renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

WATER CLOSETS.

New pans and traps fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Flushing apparatus repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

FOOD PREMISES.

Redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hot water apparatus provided			...	...	...	...	...	3
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water closets improved		...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Lighting improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

MISCELLANEOUS NUISANCES ABATED 5

SMOKE NUISANCE ABATED 2

Factories Act, 1937.

There are 137 factories with power and 22 factories without power on the Register. Among the factories with power there are 5 laundries, 15 bakehouses and 4 establishments for making sausages.

As a result of the Sanitary Inspectors' representations two new closets were built and one was repaired. In four cases sanitary accommodation was renovated.

1.—Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	51	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies	137	98	1	—
(iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	159	149	1	—

Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	6	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home-work)	4	—	4	—	—
TOTAL ...	11	7	4	4	—

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

There is one registered premises, a furniture factory. Seven samples of prescribed filling materials, namely, coir fibre, rag flock, unused cotton felt and re-cleansed dyed hair were taken and proved satisfactory. These samples were taken from bulk.

The Shops Act, 1950 (Sanitary Authority).

Inspections were made under the above Act and in one case the condition of sanitary accommodation was improved.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.

No offensive trade has been established within the district, and there is no common lodging house.

Byelaws in operation.

Public Health Act, 1936, relating to Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Housing Act, 1936, relating to Working Class Houses and to Houses let in Lodgings.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, relating to Handling, Wrapping, etc., of Food and Sale of Food in the open air.

Swimming Pools.

There are two private open-air swimming pools to which the public are admitted. Samples taken during the summer months showed adequate chlorination and a bacteriologically safe water supply.

Mosquito Control.

Some trouble has been experienced by mosquito breeding during the year. Larvicidal oil has been sprayed into ponds and ditches as frequently as possible.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of houses in respect of which action was necessary: —

		<i>Found to be infested.</i>	<i>Disinfested.</i>
(a) Council Houses ...	...	1	1
(b) Other Houses ...	...	1	1

Disinfection is carried out by spraying, in some cases coupled with fumigation. D.D.T. is employed.

Council houses requiring disinfestation are ordinarily dealt with by the Local Authority. Privately owned houses are dealt with by contractors at the owners' expense.

Schools.

All public elementary schools are provided with main water supply and main drainage.

Visits are paid to schools in which cases of infectious disease have occurred. The Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from School is followed, and family and other contacts are excluded where indicated.

It was not found necessary to close any school temporarily during the year on account of infectious disease.

Sanitary Accommodation in Independent Schools.

The Medical Officer of Health, at the request of the Council, inspected all private schools in the Urban District and reported to the Public Health Committee on the adequacy of sanitary accommodation. There are twenty private schools, and five of these were found to be deficient, taking the standard of sanitary accommodation as laid down by the Board of Education in 1921, which is felt to be a reasonable one for private schools at the present time.

By the end of the year these five schools had submitted proposals to bring sanitary accommodation up to the required standard.

HOUSING.

At the end of the year nine hundred and seventy permanent Council houses and flats and one hundred temporary houses had been completed since 1945 and were in occupation. A further one hundred and fifty-eight permanent Council houses and flats were in course of erection.

One hundred and sixty-four houses were built by private enterprise during the year and one hundred and thirty-four such houses were in course of erection.

The number of family units rehoused during the year was two hundred and eighty-five. This includes seventy-nine exchanges from houses of a size unsuited to the occupants and from derequisitioned properties. One family was rehoused in requisitioned property.

The number of applicants remaining on the Council's waiting list at the end of the year had increased to 1,695. Various factors such as deterioration of old houses, the amenities of the district and easy access to London contribute to this increase.

Overcrowded houses, with often more than one family unit in residence, and insanitary houses have a grievous effect on the physical and mental well being of the people and contribute to many of our present-day social problems. Some of these houses are not capable of being brought up to a desirable standard of fitness at a reasonable cost and in the present housing shortage it would be unreasonable to represent them for demolition.

The provision of a separate and hygienic unit of accommodation of the right size for each family is one of the most important public health measures.

Caravan Sites.

Some newcomers to the district find the answer to their housing problems by taking to dwelling in caravans. A close watch has to be kept on this tendency, especially as regards water supply and sanitation.

The Council have taken action during the year for removal of caravans on Field Common and served Enforcement Notices under Section 23 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, and in other cases have instituted proceedings under Section 269 (2) and (7) of the Public Health Act, 1936, on persons allowing land to be used for camping purposes on more than sixty days during the year.

During 1953 there were thirteen new applications for individual caravans and eleven consents were issued for limited periods by the Council.

Consideration has been given by the Council to a controlled caravan site as a means of dealing with existing unsuitable individual sites. It was felt that this would not be desirable in the district.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...						585
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	...		4
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...						14
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...		3
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...					84

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	63
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...				Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices:—						
(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	...					Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied						11
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects remedied after service of formal Notices:—						
(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	...	8
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	...					Nil

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses made fit in pursuance of undertakings under Section 11 | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- | | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made | ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit | ... | Nil |

Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

All cases of overcrowding coming to notice are referred to the Housing Committee for rehousing as and when accommodation becomes available.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations of 1949 the Ministry of Agriculture is now responsible for the supervision of milk production and the bacterial cleanliness of milk produced on the farm. The Local Authority is now only concerned and responsible for the conditions of distribution to the consumer. It is felt that only the closest liaison and interchange of information between the Inspectors of the Ministry and the Local Authority can hope to equal the valuable results achieved in the past by the officers of the Local Authority with their experience and personal and local knowledge of conditions.

If there is any suspicion of infectious disease being carried by the milk the Medical Officer of Health has still the right to visit the farm and submit any specimens of human or animal origin, including the milk itself, for examination for pathogenic organisms.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector acts as agent for the County Medical Officer for the supervision of pasteurising and sterilising establishments. One small pasteurising plant at a dairy farm was licensed in December.

Biological Samples.

Fourteen samples of Tuberculin Tested, four of Accredited and eight of un-designated milk were submitted to biological tests. One sample of accredited milk revealed evidence of tuberculosis and appropriate action was taken in eliminating the diseased animal from the herd concerned.

Distributors.

Number of Distributors registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949	23
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Special Designation Licences.

Tuberculin Tested (including one bottling establishment)	...	17
Pasteurised	... ..	17
Sterilised	... ..	15
Pasteuriser (licensed by Surrey County Council)	... ..	1

The Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950.

Specification of Areas.

Notification was received from the Minister of Food in June, 1953, declaring his intention to make an order specifying the Urban District of Walton and Weybridge and other adjacent districts as an area in which all milk must be "specially designated" milk, that is,

pasteurised, sterilised, or tuberculin tested, or until September 30th, 1954, accredited milk from a single herd.

This Milk Order came into operation on January 1st, 1954, and is welcomed, as all milk now retailed in the district can be considered safe provided adequate pasteurisation is carried out in all cases. It is therefore considered necessary to continue to test milk for adequate pasteurisation and as an additional safeguard to continue to test unpasteurised milk for the presence of tuberculosis.

Summary of Milk Samples.

Classification.						Satisfied Prescribed Test.	Failed Prescribed Test.	Total.
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
„	„	(Farm Bottled)	...	...	...	—	—	—
„	„	(Pasteurised)	...	...	...	33	—	33
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	47	—	47
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
						—	—	—
Totals ...						90	—	90
						—	—	—

Summary of Ice Cream Samples.

		Grade I.	Grade II.	Grade III.	Grade IV.	Total.
Pre-packed	...	7	—	—	—	7
Unwrapped	...	1	—	—	—	1
		—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	8	—	—	—	8
		—	—	—	—	—

These grades refer to the hygienic quality of ice cream. The Ministry of Health suggests that over a six monthly period eighty per cent. of a vendor's samples should fall into grade I or II and not more than twenty per cent. into grade III. No samples should be of grade IV quality.

Meat.

Seven hundred and fifty-three inspections of butchers' shops, slaughterhouses and other premises were made. All meat found unfit for human consumption was voluntarily surrendered, no magistrate's order being required in any case.

The Ministry of Food's Government Slaughterhouse is established at the premises of Mr. J. E. Grimditch, Hersham. Details of work carried out are given later in the Report.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected was equivalent to 19,394 cattle units, an increase of over 14% upon the number dealt with in 1952.

It is necessary for a Sanitary Inspector to attend at these premises daily and considerable and ever increasing time is devoted to meat inspection duties only. The Ministry of Food makes a grant towards the cost of this work.

There is one other licensed slaughterhouse which has not been in use during the year.

Unfit Meat and other Foods surrendered.

								lbs.
BEEF:								
Parts of Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	846
Offal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
PORK:								
112 Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,748
Parts of Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,309
Offal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,997
MUTTON:								
12 Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	445
Parts of Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Offal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,840
OTHER GOODS:								
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Shellfish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Tinned and Bottled Goods	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,060
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	638

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	6	15,461	32,599
Number inspected ...	—	—	6	15,461	32,599
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	—	—	—	12	55
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	964	2,955
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	6.31%	9.23%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	—	—	—	—	57
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	404
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1.41%

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

Meat and offal from the Government Slaughterhouse and Wholesale Meat Depot (including that found unfit on retail butchers' premises) are disposed of by the Ministry of Food by auction under the arrangements set out in Circular MF 21/53 of 2nd December, 1953. Generally the buyer is John Knight, Ltd., of Silvertown, and the arrangements for collection are satisfactory.

The remaining classes of unfit foods are collected by the Council's Cleansing Department and suitably buried at their controlled refuse tips.

Food Hygiene.

(1) The distribution of retail food premises is as follows:—

Bakers and Confectioners ...	15	Grocers and Provision	
Butchers	27	Merchants	71
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	14	Hotels, Restaurants and	
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	31	Cafes	49
Dairies	2	Public Houses	39
Sugar Confectioners		39	

Wholesale premises comprise: —

Government Slaughterhouse	1	South Eastern Wholesale	
Sausage and cooked meat		Meat Supply Association	
factory	1	Depot	1
Biscuit factory	1		

(2) The following are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the premises are included in the foregoing figures: —

Sale of Ice Cream	... 97	Manufacture of Sausages and	
		Preserved Food	26

Three new ice cream registrations and three in respect of sausage manufacture were effected.

At present ice cream is not manufactured in the district.

One thousand and thirty-one visits were made to food premises of all types, excluding visits specifically made for rodent control. The intensive work done over the previous three years left very little to be required for the time being in the way of improvements to structure and fittings and the work in general related to maintenance of cleanliness of premises, prevention of flies and avoidance of contamination of unwrapped food on display. There is some reluctance, particularly in the confectionery trades, to protect all of these goods in cases on the plea that protected goods sell less readily, and this attitude has become more noticeable with the easing of restrictions upon supplies.

The following works were secured: —

Provision of constant hot water apparatus	... 2 cases.
Structural repairs	... .. 3 „
Redecoration	... .. 5 „

The attention of catering establishments was drawn to the Handbook on Clean Catering through the Chamber of Trade and copies were made available for distribution. The Public Health Department is always ready to advise on problems of structure, equipment and practices in these establishments.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The administration of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, is carried out by the Surrey County Council. The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following table of work done in the Walton and Weybridge Urban District:—

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular			Prosecutions	Convictions
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total		
Milk	27	9	36	—	—	—	—	—
Coconut, sugared	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
Condensed Milk	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cooking Oil	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cream, double	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Honey	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—
Jam	1	2	3	1	—	1	—	—
Lemon Curd	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Marmalade	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meat Paste	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Meat Pie	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pepper	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Soft Drink	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Wine, Ginger	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Aspirin tablets	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	—
Cough Syrup	1	2	3	1	2	3	—	—
Olive Oil	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	32	34	66	2	3	5	—	—

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

Forty-five cases of scarlet fever were notified, twenty-five per cent. less than in the previous year. The vast majority were in the age group of 5–10 years. All the Council schools had at least one or two cases, there being an increased number of cases in the infant schools. Every effort is made to control these sporadic outbreaks in schools by examination of throat swabs of contacts of the actual cases and the exclusion of children found to be carriers.

Eleven cases, mainly with superadded glandular infection, were treated in the infectious diseases hospital. All cases made a good recovery.

Strict supervision is especially important in food and milk handlers who may become carriers of the infection and the inadvertent case of an explosive outbreak.

Diphtheria.

This is the eighth consecutive year that no case of diphtheria has occurred in children up to school leaving age. No cases of any age have been notified in the district in the last five years. This does not mean that the disease is eradicated. A sharp outbreak took place recently in the Midlands with seventy-eight cases and six deaths, all in children who had not been immunised. The continued maintenance of a high level of immunisation is, therefore, very necessary.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

There has been some falling off in the demand for diphtheria immunisation in the last two or three years as a consequence of the publicity given to a few cases of poliomyelitis occurring in some parts of the country subsequent to injections of any kind.

Present evidence strongly suggests that the risk of immunisation when poliomyelitis is not rife in a neighbourhood is infinitesimal. No such cases have ever occurred locally. Nevertheless, it is the practice here not to carry out immunisation when cases of poliomyelitis are occurring in the neighbourhood and this obviously will show some decline in the numbers immunised.

Details of the number of children immunised during the year are as follows:—

Primary injections	...	...	415
Reinforcing doses	...	...	267

Vaccination against Smallpox.

Notifications have been received of the following vaccinations carried out in the district: —

Primary vaccination	...	...	304
Re-vaccination	...	...	199

Smallpox Contacts.

Notifications were received of the arrival in the district via airports or seaports of seven persons who had been in contact with cases of smallpox either in an infected area or on the voyage. These persons were visited and kept under observation for the required period of fourteen days from the date of last contact.

Measles.

An increased number of cases occur every second year and following on the small number notified in 1952 six hundred and forty-five cases were notified in 1953. Over fifty per cent. of the cases were in the age group 5–10 years.

Only four cases were admitted to hospital with lung complications. All made a good recovery.

Whooping Cough.

One hundred and fifty-three cases were notified, two of whom were admitted to hospital for treatment. Both made an uncomplicated recovery.

A scheme for the immunisation of infants against whooping cough was commenced in 1952. This vaccine is usually combined with diphtheria prophylactic and the course commenced at the age of six months. This scheme is meeting with a good response and the number of children immunised during the year was as follows:—

Primary injections	...	...	327
Reinforcing doses	...	...	57

Poliomyelitis.

The first case occurred in December, 1952, and was notified at the beginning of the year. This was a girl of 3 years resident in Walton-on-Thames who was treated in the infectious diseases hospital in Middlesex and later transferred to an orthopaedic hospital on account of resulting weakness of one leg. On enquiry there was no illness in any contacts.

The second case occurred in July in Walton-on-Thames in a girl of 3 years. She was treated in hospital and made a complete recovery.

The third case occurred in August in a Camping Club on the River Mole. This was a girl of 11 years who was removed to an infectious diseases hospital and the family vacated the camp. No further cases fortunately occurred. The patient made a good recovery with no paralysis.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.

One isolated case of meningococcal meningitis was notified and admitted promptly to the infectious diseases hospital. This was a very severe case in a child of one year of age of the old type of disease known as “spotted fever.” A remarkable recovery was made under antibiotic treatment.

Food Poisoning.

No cases were notified during the year.

It is gratifying to be able to report that there was no mortality locally from the above acute infectious diseases.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to I.D. Hospital
Smallpox	—	—
Scarlet Fever	45	11
Diphtheria	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid Fever) ...	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—
Pneumonia	9	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—
Malaria	1	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Measles	645	4
Whooping Cough	153	2
Meningococcal Infection	1	1
Dysentery	1	1
Poliomyelitis—paralytic	1	1
Poliomyelitis—non-paralytic	2	2
Food Poisoning	—	—

Notifiable Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).
 According to Age Groups.

AGE		Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid Fever)	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Poliomyelitis—paralytic	Poliomyelitis—non-paralytic	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningococcal Infection	Encephalitis Lethargica	Malaria
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1–2 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
2–3 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3–4 years	...	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	82	16	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
4–5 years	...	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	86	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5–10 years	...	—	31	—	—	—	—	—	343	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10–15 years	...	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	23	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15–25 years	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
25–35 years	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35–45 years	...	—	1	—	—	1	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45–65 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unspecified	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...		—	45	—	—	2	9	2	645	153	1	1	2	—	1	—	1

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

The following cases occurred in Elementary Schools and Day Nurseries : —

Disease		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Chickenpox	...	34	40	32	10	10	35	12	—	—	3	3	8
German Measles		11	4	8	1	8	4	—	—	—	—	1	—
Mumps	... ..	4	17	25	72	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	1

The Head Teachers of the local elementary schools forward to the Medical Officer weekly returns of non-notifiable infectious diseases. This is a useful procedure which is much appreciated, and is a way in which the Medical Officer of Health can be kept informed of the prevalence of infectious diseases other than those required to be notified by medical practitioners.

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 years	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 years	...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 years	...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 years	...	3	3	—	—	1	2	—	—
45-55 years	...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 years	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards	...	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	18	10	—	—	4	2	—	—

Cases added to register during year:					
New Cases	...	...	...	...	28
Transfer into district	...	...	...	...	16
					44
Cases removed from register during year	...	...	...	...	21
Total on register at end of year:					
Pulmonary—Males	...	...	...	...	165
Females	...	...	...	...	109
Non-Pulmonary—Males	...	...	...	...	24
Females	...	...	...	...	27
					325
Net increase for the year	...	...	...	...	23

The Chest Physician is in attendance at the Chest Clinic at the Locke King Clinic in Weybridge every week. New cases are examined and if confirmed as tuberculous the Health Visitor visits the homes concerned and invites the contacts of the patient to attend for further examination. Clinical and X-ray examination of these contacts is carried out and arrangements are made for Mantoux testing and B.C.G. inoculation if found necessary.

Contacts of old cases already notified attend for observation as and when invited by the Chest Physician.

Steps are immediately taken to follow up deaths of persons whose tuberculous disease was not notified during life. Enquiries are made into the reason for failure of notification, disinfection is carried out in the home and the contacts are examined.

Only one case occurred during the year in an adult female of 35 years, the infection being discovered at a post mortem examination.

Case Finding Surveys.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the district in February and March. The following is a brief summary of their findings:—

WEYBRIDGE:	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Total number X-rayed	884	1,239
Pulmonary Tuberculosis <i>Active</i> ...	2	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis <i>Inactive</i> ...	10	16
Non-tuberculous abnormalities ...	19	20
WALTON-ON-THAMES:		
Total number X-rayed	1,311	1,959
Pulmonary Tuberculosis <i>Active</i> ...	3	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis <i>Inactive</i> ...	35	37
Non-tuberculous abnormalities ...	67	38
Undiagnosed—awaiting further investigation	4	3

Home Conditions.

The Medical Officer of Health has detailed knowledge of the home conditions of all persons notified to him as suffering from tuberculosis from personal visits as well as from reports from the Health Visitor. He is thus in a position to advise on the housing requirements of the family concerned. The patient should be isolated at least to the extent of having a bedroom to himself. Advice is given on the necessity of strict precautions as to proper disposal of sputum and on general matters of hygiene.

Care and After Care.

The Chertsey and Walton and Weybridge Tuberculosis Care Committee meets at frequent intervals to consider applications for further help from patients. Free milk is provided on the recommendation of the Chest Physician. Beds, bedding, clothing and household necessities can also be provided in necessitous cases.

Patients can be put in touch with the Domiciliary Occupational Therapy Unit or with Rehabilitation Officers appointed by the Ministry of Labour.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No case arose in which action was necessary under the above Act and Regulations.

